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# ILLINOIS RACING BOARD

## MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

On Tuesday, May 19, 2015, a regular meeting of the Illinois Racing Board was held at Fairmount Park Racetrack at 10:30 a.m. The following Board members were present: Chairman Jeff Brincat, Commissioners Kathy Byrne, Shelley Kalita, Robert Lunt, Arlene Mulder (telephonic), Robert Muriel, Hugh Scates, Robert Schiewe, Jr., Gregory Sronce, and Travis Swoope. Staff members Domenic Di Cera, Bob Lang, Marc Laino, and Mickey Ezzo were also present.

#### **BOARD ITEMS**

Representatives of Balmoral Racing Club, Inc. and Maywood Park Trotting Association, Inc. presented a report on their financial status and Chapter 11 bankruptcy proceedings. Randy Olech, William "Duke" Johnston, William McKenna (telephonic), and Nathan Rugg (telephonic) appeared on behalf of Balmoral Park and Maywood Park.

## **ORGANIZATION LICENSEE REQUESTS**

A request by Maywood Park Trotting Association, Inc. for approval to vacate live racing on Thursdays and Fridays beginning July 2, 2015 through December 31, 2015 was deferred until the June 23, 2015 Board meeting.

A request by Balmoral Racing Club, Inc. for approval to switch live racing from Sundays to Fridays beginning July 2, 2015 through December 31, 2015 was deferred until the June 23, 2015 Board meeting.

Commissioner Byrne moved to approve Peter Hanley II and Sara Narotsky as Association Stewards at Maywood Park and Balmoral Park. Commissioner Sronce seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

Commissioner Lunt moved to approve organization licenses to the Illinois Department of Agriculture for harness meets at the Illinois State Fair (August 14, 15, 17, 18, and 20) and the DuQuoin State Fair (August 28, 29, and 30). Commissioner Sronce seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote. Rhonda Jachino appeared on behalf of the Illinois Department of Agriculture. William Johnston and Jim Hannon appeared on behalf of Maywood Park. Ed Teefey also appeared.

Commissioner Sronce moved to approve an organization license to the Brown County Fair Association, Inc. for pari-mutuel harness racing at the Brown County Fair In Mt. Sterling, Illinois (August 8 and 9). Commissioner Scates seconded the motion. The motion passed by a roll call vote of 9 to 1. Commissioner Byrne voted against the motion. Ed Teefey appeared on behalf of the Brown County Fair Association.

Commissioner Sronce moved to approve an advance deposit wagering license to Xpressbet, Inc.for the remainder of 2015. Xpressbet, Maywood Park, Balmoral Park, and the Brown County Fair Association have a contractual agreement through December 31, 2015. Commissioner Kalita seconded the motion. The motion

passed by a roll call vote of 6 to 3. Commissioners Byrne, Lunt, and Swoope voted against the motion. Commissioner Mulder abstained. Gene Chabrier appeared on behalf of Xpressbet. William Johnston and Jim Hannon appeared on behalf of Balmoral Park and Maywood Park. Tim Carey appeared on behalf of Hawthorne Race Course. Glen Berman appeared on behalf of the Illinois Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Commissioner Scates moved to approve the minutes of the April 23, 2015 Board meeting. Commissioner Swoope seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

#### **ADJOURMENT**

At 12:15 p.m., Commissioner Scates motioned to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Swoope seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Domenic DiCera

Interim Executive Director